A PUBLIC WORKS SCANDAL.

A Charge that Uptown Sewerage Is Defective.

Assessment Lawyers as Corrupters of Public Servants.

For several days vague rumors have been in circula lion in the vicinity of the City Hall of the discovery of an attempt to overreach the city on the part of one the contractors under the Department of Public Works, and there were those who professed to know that one or more officials under Commissioner Porte were likely to be compromised if the subject underwent a searching investigation. A search for the fountain bead of the rumors resulted in leading a Herald reporter to the Comptroller's office, where, it was reported, the complaint had been put in writing, charges specifically made, and as a result all payments on the work stopped and the workmen called off.

Deputy Comptroller Earle, on being applied to for information, reluctantly admitted that charges had been made against a contractor, and that the Comptroller had stopped payments of his vouchers pending an investigation. Mr. Earle expressed a desire to withbold all further information until this investigation had taken tangible shape, but stated that if the representations made to the Comptroller proved true it would likely implicate various parties. After considerable orging he stated that the work referred to was

135th, 147th and other streets in that neighborhood, for the construction of which Mr. Alexander Lutz, of East 121st street, has the contract. A reporter yesterday visited the neighborhood, and, making an examination, found that the contract covers an outlet sewer from 143d Street up Eignth avenue to 147th street, and thence down that street to the East River; below Sixth avenue, a double sewer on either side of Eighth avenue, from 143d street to 133d street, and two lateral sewersone running through 137th street, from Eighth avenue to avenue St. Nicholas, and another of similar struc-ture from avenue St. Nicholas along 145th street to Eighth avenue. That portion of the work on 137th street, between St. Nicholas avenue, on 147th street, from Seventh avenue to the river, the east side of Eighth avenue from 143d street to 133d street, and the west-side of Eighth avenue, from 133d street to 138th street, has already been completed.

Mr. Earle was again appealed to, when he stated that the charges were made by a discharged foreman who had been in Lutz's employ, but he declined to give his name, but which was ascertained subsequently to be Toal, Mr. Earle, however, permitted the writer to make memoranda of the alleged defects in construction.

They are, in brief, as follows:-THE ALLEGED DEPECTS. The curve on One Hundred and Thirty-afth street, under the specifications, was to have eighteen-inch pipe when only fifteen inches were used, and the grade of the culvert at the manhole, it is charged, ten inches high. It is charged that the stone in the basin at the southeast corner of One Hundred and Thirty-fifth street was taken from the sidewalk; that all the manholes are built without foundations; that the basins are but eight inches while the contract calls for twelve inches, and that on this section sand and cement were mixed in the proportion of three barrels of sand to one of cement. The second grade has for fifty feet no two

cement. The second grade has for fifty feet no twoinch plank under the invert as the contract calls for,
the manhole has no stone foundation, there is no twoinch plank under the invert in this grade. The third
grade is reported correct, but no two-inch plank under the
inverts, there being merely three courses of brick
laid dry. The fourth grade is correct, but no plank
under inverts, and three courses of brick laid dry. At
the house line of One Hundred and Forty-second
street the information charges that the sewer is five
inches high and no plank has been used, while
the insert is out of sight under water;
Grade No. 6 is also reported defective on the centre
line of 142d street, no plank being used under inverts,
but merely four courses of brick being laid. The same
defects are reported in grades Nos. 7, 8 and 11. From
141st to 140th street it is alleged that the grade varies
from 1 to 12 inches above the engineer's meastrement, that every other invert has been left out, and
that the pipe is of an inferior quality.
THE CONTRACT FOR THE SEWER
was awarded on July 29, 1875, to Alexander Lutz at the
nurveyor's estimate of \$58,396, the work to consist of
the outlet sewer in 147th street, Eighth avenue and
145th street from avenue St. Nicholas to Harlem River,
rith branches in Sixth avenue, between 163d and 145th
treets. Mr. Lutz entered into bonds in the sum of
\$50,000 for the completion of the work, his sureties bemg William Baird and A. P. Arnol. Upon the work he
has received two payments by warrant, viz. —October
12, \$2,040, and November 1, \$10,001 60, making a total
of \$12,941 60. Certain additional payments under the
iontract are to be allowed for rock blasting and
irilling.
The work consists of 11,651 lineal feet, divided into

Irilling.

The work consists of 11,651 lineal feet, divided into four different styles of structure, with 300 feet of sulverts, 21 basins, 500 piles and 2,000 feet of planking, it will be observed that the charge is made above that the contractor failed to put in the planking under the

It will be observed that the charge is made above that the contractor failed to put in the planking under the sewers.

Who is responsible?

Mr. Earle stated that a Mr. Noale, lately in the employ of the Bureau of Sewers, had been instructed by the Comptroller to make a survey of the work and report the results. As the work had not been turned over to the city it was necessary to get the consent of the contractor for a survey to be made. Mr. Luiz was, sonsequently, sent for, and at once gave his consent for the making of the survey. His explanation of the tharge that the work has not been done according to contract is that a part of the work was sub-contracted; that the sub-contractor failed to comply with the specifications in some particulars, and that so soon as he discovered the defects he had them remedied at his own expense, and that the work, as completed, is in compliance with his contract with the city.

WHAT THE PUBLIC WORKS OFFICIALS SAY.

General Portor informed the writer that he had been notified of the alleged defects in the work and had ordered an investigation by his officers. He suspected that there had been some rasculity practised, and it was alleged that the man who made the charge had purposely built the sewers in the defect manner by Lutz's orders. If such proved to be the case the parties could be punished by application to the courts. Mr. Towle, singineer of the Sewer department, reports that his officers are now making a scarching investigation and survey, which will be completed in a few slight defects in the work, which Lutz agrees to remedy. As far as he is able to judge, Mr. Towle, singineer of the Sewer department, reports that his officers are now making a scarching investigation and survey, which will be completed in a few slight defects in the work, which Lutz agrees to remedy. As far as he is able to judge, Mr. Towle assessment lawyers to get the assessments vacated. He states that they have before now detected foremen in working thus in the interests of these lawyers, and it m

ALLEGED FRAUD.

SERIOUS CHARGES MADE AGAINST THE PHOENIX INSURANCE COMPANY OF HARTFORD-AN IN-JUNCTION AND THE APPOINTMENT OF A RECEIVER ASKED FOR.

Ann Elizabeth Draper, a policy holder in the Phoenix Mutual Life Insurance Company, of Hartford, Conn., represented by Benjamin F. Butler and L. G. Hine as counsel, and O. D. Barrett, solicitor, in her own behalf and in behalf of all the other policy holders and creditors of the company, in a sworn oill of complaint in equity of the District Court of the District of Columbia, makes some serious charges against the practice and standing of that company, of which the Court is asked to take cognizance and grant some relief,

WILD AND RECKLESS SPECULATIONS. In this bill of complaint it is charged that the officers and agents, knowingly, wickedly and in fraud of their trust, are pursuing a business policy, in taking hazardous and extra hazardous and rejected risks, that will of itself bring speedy ruin to the company; that by reason thereof the reserve fund has been reduced far below the standard required by the laws of the several States in which the company is doing business, and concealing such practices and the results thereof from the policy holders. It is charged upon oath that the officers, in violation of their trust duties, have been engaged in wild and reckless speculation with the trust lunds of said company for their own private gain, and

by so doing have brought it to insolvency. It is charged upon outh that the said officers have in their employ in all the States and Territories in which said company is doing business agents who are engaged in corrupt practices, unlawfully employing the

\$15,651,678,35, the Connecticut Mutual has only \$1,655 81 on an annual premium income of \$7,512,154 27; yet the Phoenix claims and reports \$401,394 50 on an annual premium, income of only \$2,725,257 73.

\$2,725,297 73.

AGENTS' ACCOUSTS.

It is charged that by reason of the fraudulent practices of many of the agents of said company, heretofore done and performed at the instance of the officers thereof, those officers are now deterred by fear of exposure from enforcing the payment of large sums of money due from said agents to the company, and that not tifty per cent of the \$461,394 50 due the company, in consequence of the aforesaid evil practice, will ever be realized.

It is charged upon oath that officers of said company,

in consequence of the aloreaud evil practice, will ever be realized.

It is charged upon eath that officers of said company, in fraud of its policy holders, in 1873 entered into an agreement with one Albert Grant, of Washington, D. C., to furnish the means to complete eleven houses on lots 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 and 14, in square 760, in the city of Washington, D. C., secured by deeds of trust; that after said officers had advanced, as they claim, over \$300,000 on said preperty, and when \$10,000 more would have completed all of them and rendered them at once productive, either through rentals or sale, said company fraudulently violated their said agreement and refused to furnish the means to complete the same, for the apparent object of keeping said houses in an unfinished condition until a forced sale of the same under the deed of trust could be secured, with the intent that the same should be purchased by parties in collusion with said officers at a nominal sum for their individual benefit.

CONTROLING THE TRUST FUNDS.

It is charged upon oath that some of the officers of said company, in violation of their trust duty, well knowing said company to be insolvent and its capital stock valueless, yet, to get the control of the assets of said company for their own individual profit, paid about \$400 per share, though returned on the tax books at \$18 per share, though returned on the tax shooks at \$18 per share, though returned on the tax shooks at \$18 per share, though returned on the tax shooks at \$18 per share, though returned on the tax shooks at \$18 per share, though returned on the tax shooks at \$18 per share, though returned on the tax shooks at \$18 per share, though returned on the tax shooks at \$18 per share, though returned on the tax shooks at \$18 per share, though returned on the tax shooks at \$18 per share, though returned on the tax shooks at \$18 per share, though returned on the tax shooks at \$18 per share, though returned on the tax shooks at \$18 per share, though returned on the tax shooks

of speculators contemplating this wicked malappropriation.

DECETTIVE PIGURES PRINTED.

It is also charged upon oath that while the gross assets at the full reported value claimed for it by the company on the 1st of January last was \$9,97.585 34, yet its officially reported labilities were \$9,752,996 70, thus leaving a surplus of only \$244,588 64. That in said gross assets are included about \$400,000 claimed to be due from said Albert Grant, reported as good, available and well secured, white in a late suit of the said company against said Grant affidavits were filed by said company to the effect that the real estate of the said company to the effect that the real estate of the said grant—to wit, lots 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 16, 17 and 18 of A. Grant's recorded subdivision of square 760, city of Washington, D. C., on which it is now claimed said indebtedness is secured, making it a good and available asset—was worth enly about \$200,000, while the official records show that only about \$200,000 of the about \$400,000 of reported assets is an indisputed lien on said property.

It is also charged upon oath that most of said loans.

\$400,000 of reported assets is an indisputed lien on said property.

It is also charged upon oath that most of said loans made by the officers of said company of the trust funds of its policy holders were made upon usurious interest, in consequence whereof none of the interest will ever be realized, and that the UNTAID INTEREST AMOUNTS TO ABOUT ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND BOLLARS.

It is charged upon oath that much of the reputed assets of the said company consists of the unsecured notes of the agents of said company for unpaid balances of trust funds due the company, and that but little if any interest is ever collected on the same or can be, and that by reason of the fraudulent practices of said officers the said company dare not enforce the payment of said agents notes because of the knowledge said agents possess of the fraudulent practices of said officers the said company dare not enforce the payment of said agents notes because of the knowledge said agents possess of the fraudulent practices of said officers.

ALLEGED FICTITIOES VALUES.

It is charged that many of the stocks and bonds held by said company are reported at fictitious values, that

possess of the fraudident practices of said officers.

ALLERED FICTITIOTS VALUES.

It is charged that many of the stocks and bonds held by said company are reported at factitious values, that while the par value of some of the railroad bonds is reported at \$20,000, for instance, the real par value is not over \$10,000, that by reason of the effort to secure usurious interest the company has lost the legal hen for the security of \$178,077 82 credited to interest accrued on cash loans and on bonds in the schedule of the reported assets of the said company, and that the plaintiff verily believes that under the laws of many of the States not only the interest but the principal will be forfeited by reason of such maiadministration of taking usurious interest.

It is also charged upon belief that the officers, in violation of their trust duties, have made large individual profits by purchasing with the funds of the company railroad bonds at reduced prices and then transferring them to the company at their face value, and that not seventy-five per cent of the gross assets could be realized, that the said company is insolvent and that other suits of a like nature to this are pending against the company in other States with injunctions.

These are some of the principal points in this fearful indictment, and the seriousness to the company may be judged of by the distinguished counsel employed. The alleged sharp practice of the editors of the company or some of them to overreach the interest of this Mr. Grant, of Washington, doubtless led to the investigations upon which facts were obtained and on which this bill of complaint is founded. The bill closes with the usual prayer for an answer to each and all of the charges made, with appropriate interrogatorics annexed, and that a receiver be appointed.

Four million two hundred and eighteen thousand five hundred and twenty-three dollars and sixty-seven cents of the assets of the company consists of premium notes and loans; \$178,077 82 of uncollected interest; \$17,700 loaned o

THE ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE.

INVESTIGATING THE SCHOOL SHIP MERCURY-FOOD, CLOTHING, DISCIPLINE AND TREATMENT

The Assembly Committee on Crime vesterday visited the school ship Mercury for purposes of investigation. They were the guests of the Commissioners of Charities and Correction, Mr Isaac H. Bailey accompanying the party. The boys on the Mercury were drawn up in line on deck to receive the guests, who proceeded to inspect the ship before examining any witnesses. The order and cleanliness observed were commended in general terms by the members of the committee Captain F. S. Gregory was the first witness examined. He has been connected with the Mercury since she was first used as a school ship six and a half years ago, and has been her commander since last December: he had no previous marine experience; there are now 193 boys on board, whos ages range from eleven to twenty years; of this number only two have been committed for crime; the rest have been placed on board for vagrancy or juvenile delinquency, except a few who have voluntarily committed themselves to the care of the Commissioners of Charities and Correction; when received boys are put into ship clothing, examined and assigned to a class in the school; all the boys on board are divided into two "watches;" at seven A. M. the boys "turn out," stow their hammocks and wash; at half-past seven they breakfast on ordinary navy rations; then they clean the brasses until nine A. M., when they muster in quarters; then one watch goes to school until half-past eleven, the other remaining on duty; there they are instructed in the rudiments of English, and on deck they are taught seamanship-the old boys showing the ropes to the new ones; at a quarter to twelve A. M. dinner comes and the boys are free until one A. M; from one to halfpast three P. M. the second watch attends school, and from that time until they "turn in," usually about seven P. M., they may play or spend the time as they please; during witness' experience about 120 boys entered the navy from the Mercury and about as many more joined the merchant marine; the Captain has for assistants a first, second and third officer, a master's mate, instructor and surgeon; the other paid hands on board are a captain's cierk, engineer, steward, cook, carpenter, master-at-arms and six able seamen; the line officers are all experienced seamen; there are

VARIOUS PUNISUMENTS for offending boys, the stocks being the worst; the rope's end is sometimes applied; boys are never de-prived of food as a punishment; there have not been any complaints of scarcity of lood; it is as liberal as the navy supplies: the summer clothing consists of cap, shirt, trousers and shoes; in winter there are heaters shirt, trousers and shoes; in winter there are heaters to keep the ship warm, but at present these are out of order; the ship could accommodate 250 boys, and witness preters vagrants because no one will come to take them off after they have been a few months on board, so there is a better opportunity to train them in seamanship; boys charged with grave offences should not be committed to the school ship; Weiness thought no individual Commissioner should have power to discharge boys, and it would be best to commit them until they are twenty-one years old; the average reports of those who had laif the Mercury to enter the navy and merchant service were good; the Mercury was a merchant vessel before being turned to its present use; when in port there are Cathohe and Protestant services on board every Sunday, and the boys must attend one or the other, as they have entered themselves when first taken on board; at sea the Captain takes are of the Protestaff's and the school teacher of the Cathohe boys; the Commissioners have been in the habit of discharging forty per cent of the boys before they are made seamen; there have not been any describons this year; in summer visitors are received twice a week; at present once, requisitions for the usual winter cruise have been made, and the ship will probably leave very soon for the West Index, to return in April or May; the Captain is the financial agent of the Mercury; her expense this year, to October, was \$24,000; last year it cost \$37,000, and in the lirst and second years, respectively, \$52,000 and \$51,000, witness thought \$30,000 about enough; the salaries pand are as follows:—Captain, per month, \$175; first officer, \$100; second officer, \$70; third officer, \$60; instructor, \$51,66; does for, \$60; clerk, \$16; master's mate, \$30; engineer. to keep the ship warm, but at present these are out of

each; the present master's mate was originally committed to the ship; besides the annual LONG WINTER'S CRUESE.

short cruises are made throughout the summer.

The next witness examined was John C. Johnson, the instructor. He had been a professor in Benedict's College, Newark, before going on the Mercury. He said that no definite course of study could be pursued because of the frequent interruption of classes by the coming in and discharging of boys; he needed help in his department; his classes were held from nine to half-past eleven A. M. and from one to half-past three P. M. daily except Sundays; he has made an assistant of William C. Starr, a youth who entered the ship voluntarily.

starr was next examined. He said he committed himself thirteen months ago to qualify himself for the Pacific Mail service, being lond of the sea. He is an intelligent and apparently fairly educated young man. George F. Grant, now in his twenty second year, committed by his guardian when he was nuesteen years and nine months old on account of his fondness for liquor and bad company, testified that he was anxious to be released from the ship so as to have an opportunity to learn some trade. There is some property coming to him when he gets out. He had nothing to complain of in the matter of diet or treatment, although, as he expressed it, he is "a person of good stomach."

Dr W. W. Jackson, the surgeon, called to speak of the sanitary condition of the Mercury, said that there were five cases on the sick list which might prove to be variou. He has no "sick boy," on board, and in the present instance has to encroach on the school room, where his patients are kept excluded from the other boys. He thought the boys should have more changes of clothing than at present.

Incidentally Commissioner Bailey explained that boys sent to the school ship are first committed by magistrates to the care of the Commissioners of Charities and Correction, who exercise their discretion in sending them either to Hart's Island or the ship. Any decided chipetions on the part of the boys are considered.

The Commissioner thought that boys once committed Starr was next examined. He said he committed

sidered.

The Commissioner thought that boys once committed could be held by the Commissioners as long as they liked, understanding, however, that when they are twenty-one they can leave; but that seems a sort of unwritten law.

iked, understanding, nowever, that when they are twenty-one they can leave; but that seems a sort of unwritten law.

Captain Gregory, in addition to his previous testimony, stated that he holds a weekly inspection of the ship and boys generally.

The juvenile crew of the Mercury are not a very cheerful set of youngsters, but they are mostly sturdy boys and seem obedient. When the visitors prepared to leave they manned the rigging and "cheered ship," but there seemed a tinge of sorrow in their voices.

The steamer carrying the committee made a brief stay at Hart's Island and a hasty inspection was made of the buildings. A few questions were also asked of the warden, Lawrence Dumphy. He complained of the frequency of attempted escapes. A short time ago five men took the doors off some buildings near the cometry, and tried to float off with them in the night time; but one only escaped. The buildings were also insecure, he said, and the number of keepers—five to over 300 inmates—insufficient. Most of the inmates are paupers, with a few boys.

Nothing further being elicited from this witness the committee concluded the day's session and proceeded to the city.

LONG ISLAND CITY'S TREASURER.

LECTIONS TO HIS OWN USE.

In accordance with the notice served upon counse for Mr. John Horan, Treasurer of Long Island City, by District Attorney Downing, the indictment against that official was called on for trial before the Queens County Court of Sessions, Judge Armstrong presiding on Wednesday. There was quite an array of counsel in the case and much interest was manifested in its progress. The indictment in effect charged Mr. Horar with receiving moneys for taxes, percentages and interest, which were not properly accounted for. A receipted bill for taxes paid to Horan by the executors of the Edwin Hoyt estate, amounting, with interest and percentages, to upward of \$3,500, was in evidence. A comparison of the items of this bill with those entered upon Horan's books shows that while there is no credit allowed for percentages, the entry for interest is considerably below that appearing on the bill as residerably below that appearing on the bill as receipted by Mr. Horan himself. There was no special
difficulty in obtaining a jury. Mr. Covert, senior
counsel for Horan, moved to quash the indictment, for
the reason that the books and papers examined by the
accountants, and from which their report was made,
were not submitted to the Grand Jury who found it.
This objection, however, was overruled, and the Court
proceeded to take testimony, the first part of which
merely tended to establish Mr. Horan's connection with
the office of City Treasurer.

R. L. Fabian, one of the accountants engaged to examine the accounts, testified at considerable length as
to his conclusions and the rendering of his report, a
digest of which has aiready been published. He gave
evience as to the apparent shortness of the Treasurer's
bank account, also of the interest account in the matter
of the Hoyt estate. He was cross-examined closely.

Ex-Mayor Ditmars was then called. His evidence occupied the remainder of the day, and was continued
yesterday. He testified that the relations between the
defendant and himself were friendly, and that he firmly
believed Mr. Horan to be honest.

Mr. F. M. Martell, one of the Police Commissioners
of Long Island City, corroborated Mr. Ditmars' testimony, and further testified to putting Mr. Francis
Bloomer in charge of the Treasurer's office by authority
of the Mayor.

Counsel for defendant offered to show by an instrument drawn by John B. Madden, at the time Corporation Counsel for the city, that the Treasurer was authorized to deduct a certain proportion of the percentages,
but the testimony was not allowed.

Francis Bloomer testified to having seen one of the
clerks put a book behind the safe in the office, which
was afterward pointed out to Mr. Martell by witness;
the book was one in which the tax accounts were kept.

The prosecution then rested. ceipted by Mr. Horan himself. There was no special

was afterward pointed out to Mr. Martell by witness; the book was one in which the tax accounts were kept. The prosecution then rested.

For the defence John McKenna testified to the signature of John B. Madden attached to an instrument giving an opinion justifying Mr. Horan in taking the percentages and the deductions made by him in the interest moneys; and Alvan N. Payne was called to testify that he had a conversation with Horan on the subject of his retaining fees and percentages. There were also offered three resolutions passed by the Common Council of Long Island City authorizing the Treasurer to collect ward taxes of 1871 still uncollected, and providing for the payment of city and ward taxes yet uncollected, and appropriating allowances to the Treasurer for the collection of taxes of 1871, '72 and '73.

"Porter Sumner, public accountant, testified that he made an examination of Mr. Horan's books, and he found that the city was indebted to Mr. Horan nearly \$3,000. Mr. Sumner was examined at great length and very minutely as to the manner in which he arrived at his conclusions. He was asked whether he had examined Mr. Fabian's report, and he said he had, and found that Mr. Fabian brought Mr. Horan largely in debt to the city. At the rising of the Court this witness was still upon the stand.

A STEAMER BURNED.

A STEAMER BURNED.

As the steamboat D. R. Martin was on her three o'clock trip from New York to Staten Island yesterday afternoon smoke was seen issuing from her engine The fire commenced in the kitchen, though from what cause could not be ascertained. The flames were kept in bounds by the ship's own pumps until she was run ashore below the old ferry company's landing at Tompkinsville. When she struck the flames burst out of the cabin windows and through her deck. There were between forty and fifty people on board at the time. The passengers were landed in good order by the ship's boats and by rowboats, which had congregated in great numbers. The greatest excitement prevailed among the women. By the time everybody had been taken off the boat was enveloped in flames. About four o'clock the boiler exploded with a terrible crash, upsetting rowboats and scalding two young men very badly. The firemen were promptly on hand, but were of little use, as the steamboat lay about 200 yards from the beach. About seven o'clock the fire was almost extinguished. It was supposed the vessel would become a total loss, as the timbers are all burned to the water's edge. struck the flames burst out of the cabin windows and

edge.

The D. R. Martin was purchased by the New York and Staten Island Ferry Company to run in opposition to the old monopoly line on the east shore side. The company will place another boat on as soon as possible. The D. R. Martin is eight years old, was built by T. C. Terry at Keyport, N. J., and was previously used as an excursion boat between New York and Oyster Bay. She is valued at \$75,000 and is partly insured.

NEW PANAMA STEAMERS.

The directors of the Panama Railroad held a meeting vesterday and resolved to continue their work of establishing a new line of steamers between New York and San Francisco, via Panama. They have made arrangements with J. Roach, of Chester, Pa., to comrangements with J. Roach, of Chester, Pa., to commence work on the new steamers immediately. The first is to be delivered in six months and six others every thirty days thereafter. One vessel which has been offered to them will be purchased as soon as possible, completing the number of eight vessels which they have estimated as necessary for the line. As an injunction at present restrains them from running the proposed line, the contracts for the building of the vessels are to be made with the individual members of the Board of Directors. When the injunction is dissolved they will transfer these contracts to the company and a charter will be obtained.

SMALL FIRES.

At two o'clock yesterday morning a fire broke out in the cabin of the barge Angie, lying at the foot of West Eleventh street. The damage is slight.

Shortly before five A. M. yesterday a fire was discovered on the third floor of No. 228 Pearl street, occupied by H. Harrup, japanner. The flames were extinguished before they made serious headway. C. H. Whitney, metal dealer, occupying the second floor, loses \$200; and Harrup sustains a loss of \$500. The building, which is owned by William E. Anderson, was damaged to the extent of \$200. The fire was caused from an over-heated furnace.

said agents, being wholly irresponsible, refuse to return to the company for amount due it by them.

It is charged as evidence of maiadministration that while the old Mutual had only \$120,225 28 of uncollected premiums on an annual premium income of the second process. The content of the company for amount of the first and second years respectively, \$52,000 and \$51,000; witness thought \$30,000 allows—Caption that the content of the two story frame building on Third avenue, near about enough; the salaries paid are as follows—Caption, \$150; instructor, \$100; second officer, \$75; third officer, \$50; instructor, \$100; second officer, \$75; third officer, \$50; instructor, \$100; second officer, \$75; third officer, \$75; thir

THE BROOKLYN FRAUDS.

Mr. Kinsella Explains His Connection with the Jobs Complained Of.

HIS SERVICE IN THE WATER BOARD

He Believes in the Bridge and the Honesty of Its Projectors.

The HERALD having given in several recent issues the statements and charges put forth by the Brooklyn Taxpayers' Association, including grave allegations of fraud against certain leading citizens, and with the desire to give the public both sides of the story, a reporter was sent to call upon the Hon. Thomas Kinsella, editor of the Brooklyn Eagle and at one time a member of the Water Board, for his statement of the matters in issue. The following is the substance of the conversa-

REPORTER-Mr. Kinsella, the HERALD is desirous of getting whatever you may have to say in reference to ertain charges published in that paper, made on the authority of the Taxpayers' Association of Brooklyn, and in which your name has been mentioned.

Mr. Kinsella-The Heralp's stories-and I say it with all due deference to our representative newspaper-are very old stories, and the questions em braced in them have been under discussion in Brooklyn until I had supposed they had been worn threadbare years ago. My connection with them, in any but journalistic capacity, is very remote indeed.

REPORTER-You have been a member of the Water Board, have you not? Mr. KINSELLA-Yes. Six or seven years ago-I think

t was in 1860-I was asked by my triend, the late Mayor Kalbfleisch, to accept a position in the old Water Board, then about to become vacant. It was the place made vacant by the expiration of the term of the late Mr. Peter G. Taylor. Before the time came for making the appointment, the Legislature passed an act re organizing the Board and enlarging its powers. Under this act Mayor Kalbfleisch was made one of the appointing power, and I was appointed one of four Commissioners. I was then, and had been for many years pre viously,

I had no idea that the place would interfere with my duties, but the powers of the Board were so extensive that it did. The late Mr. Van Anden, who was then sole owner of the Eagle, thought the two positions in-compatible, and this resulted in my severing my connection with my profession for a few months. I had been appointed Water Commissioner for three years at, I think, the same salary I was then receiving in my profession. I liked the change and the rest, and

been appointed Water Commissioner for three years at, I think, the same salary I was then receiving in my profession. I liked the change and the rest, and I needed the latter. Very soon I got tired of the place, and at the end of a few months—five or six months, I guess—an opportunity was given me to go back to my old position. I took advantage of it and notified Mayor Kalbfleisch of my intention to resign. At his request I held on a few months. I think I went into office in the early summer of 1869. By the lat of January, 1870, I was back at my old desk here.

Reporter—Then you did not serve out your term of three years?

Mr. Kinskilla—No; I resigned the place after serving the time mentioned—I think from May, 1889, to December of the same year.

Reporter—Wou were editor, then, both before and after you were Water Commissioner?

Mr. Kinskilla—Not for some years after.

PATENT PAYEMENT JOBS.

REPORTER—Was the reservoir contract entered into while you were Water Commissioner?

Mr. KINSKILLA—Not for some years after.

PATENT PAYEMENT JOBS.

REPORTER—Were there any patent pavements contracted for in your time?

Mr. KINSKILLA—Thes. These pavements found advocates in Brooklyn, as I think they did in every considerable city in the Union. The very men who afterward found fault with wooden pavements were their chief advocates. The Water Board held a number of meetings, listened to property owners for and against them, the price asked for the different pavements was well known and the consideration of the questions were discussed open and above board to an extraordinary degree. I think at last the Board selected two or three kinds of wooden pavement, and invited competition among their owners or representatives. The prices asked were about the same, and, as I understood, the price was in the aggregate cost per lot about the same as the cost paid under the special commissions. Other pavements which were not patented were laid at the same time. Atlantic street, from the ferry to Henry street, Columbia street, Remsen stree

REPORTER Do you remember the incident of a peti-tion being signed for pavement by a score of people who were merely trustees for ground owned by the

Reforere—Do you remember the incident of a petition being signed for pavement by a score of people who were merely trustees for ground owned by the dispensary?

Mr. Kinsella—Yes, I remember criticising the trick very severely under what I conceived to be my duty as an editor. This was not in my time in the Board. The trouble was

IN THOSE FLUSH TIMES.

The go-ahead people on certain streets—people who drive horses for pleasure especially—were anxious for good pavements, and found fault with their neighbors who were not ready to join them in getting them.

Reforere—Wass William C. Kingaley connected with any of the patent pavements?

Mr. KINSELLA—Not to my knowledge. He never was in the office in my time to my knowledge in connection with these pavements. I have heard since that he had an interest in the Nicolson Company. The street on which he lives—Cumberland—was paved with what is known as the Miller pavement, So far as I know he did not exercise his right as a property owner in favor of that or any other pavement, on that street or any other street.

Reported—I want to ask you what your views are about the lambers of the concerned in it, except as a citizen and as a journalist. It found one of its warmest advocates in my old associate, Mr. Van Anden, and through him I was induced to take a very great interest in its success, but purely as an outside friend of the enterprise. Mr. Van Anden subscribed \$25,000 of his private means to the undertaking, and would gladly have donated it to see it successful in his time. He was one of the directors, and I will not believe that either he or his associates, ex-Senator Murphy, James S. T. Stranahan, General Slocum or William C. Kingsfey, ever joined together to defraud Brooklyn, or any man in Brooklyn or outside of it. I believe the affairs of the bridge have been honestly and economically administered, and I would take the word of any of the men I have named rather than the sworn affidavit of the only man is brooklyn or outside of it. I believe kingsfey, ever joined t in Brooklyn it will be so unpopular to assail as William C. Kingsley, whose partner, Mr. Keeney, and himself are risking so large a share of their fortune on its success. I believe the completion of the bridge will be followed by an increase in the value of property in both cities, and in the insurance to New York, for all time, of the commercial supremacy she has so long maintained.

CROOKED WHISKEY IN BROOKLYN.

The trial of Stephen Summons, a well-known politic cian, resident of Brooklyn, E. D., was concluded in the United States Court, before Judge Benedict, yesterday afternoon. The accused kept a distillery at the corner of Montrose avenue and Lorimer street, and was in-dicted for running an illicit still at No. 96 Grand - treet about one year ago. Peputy Marshal McLear test-fiel that he had been offered a bribe of \$5,000 by the defendant to let up on him. The jury found a verdict of guilty. General B. F. Tracy and Mr. John Allen ap-peared for the accused, who was remanded for sen-tence.

RAID ON GAMBLING DENS.

On the 12th of July last a raid was made by Captain McHorney and a squad of police from the First precinct, Jersey City, on an alleged gambling den at the corner Hudson street and Exchange place, Jersey City, when the keeper of the place, John Ramsey, was arrested. The den was located in a part of the Pennsylvania Railroad building. Ramsey was placed on trial yesterday in the Court of Quarter Sessions. The case was given to the jury at two o'clock, but up to a late hour last evening there was no prospect of an agreement.

CORPORAL PUNISHMENT.

The case of the boy Hausman, who is lying ill at the residence of his parents, in Bayonne, from punishment alleged to have been inflicted on him by Couch, a teacher in the public school, has given rise to some excitement. Mr. Earle, principal of the school, states that he knew nothing of the case till the father of the boy called on him by direction of a physician. The case will be fully investigated by the Board of Education. This is the third case of severe punishment in the public schools within the limits of Hudson county during the week.

FLEETWOOD PARK.

THREE INTERESTING TROTTING RACES-JO BROWN, WILLIE AND CHARLIE MAC THE WIN-

The track was in very fair condition at Fleetwood Park yesterday afternoon, and three very interesting trotting contests came off, the first being between horses that had never beaten 2:26, in which five contended; the second a match between Dan Mace's gray gelding Willie and John Murphy's brown mare Katy S. and the third between horses that had never beaten 2:31. The starters for the 2:26 purse were Dan Jen-kins' gray stallion Jo Brown, W. Lovell's bay geiding Barney Kelly, Briggs & Ross' bay golding Frank Pal-mer, John Spian's gray golding Royal George and J. H. Phillip's bay mare Ella Madden. Jo Brown won the first, Barney Kelly the second and Jo Brown the two subsequent heats and the race,

The match race was won by Willie in three straight

The third race had for starters C. F. Predmore's chestnut gelding Charlie Mac, John Splan's chestnut stallion Andrew, J. Dugrey's gray mare Bessie, J. H. Williams' gray mare Laura Williams, John Murphy's gray gelding Steve Maxwell and W. Lovell's chesnut gelding Clifton. Steve Maxwell had the call in the betting previous to the start, Charlie Mac being second choice, the field bringing more than either of the horses. Andrew won the first heat; but this did not change the betting. Laura Williams won the second heat, and she sold again in the pools for the largest figures, Charlie Mac being the second choice. The latter then won the three subsequent heats and the

The following are the details :-

FLERTWOOD PARK—SECOND FALL MEETING—SECOND DAY.—Purse of \$200, for horses that have never beaten Day. 2:6; \$100 to the first; \$60 to the second; \$40 to the third horse. Mile heats; best three in five, in harness.

D. Jenkins' g. s. Jo Brown.
W. Lovell's b. g. Barney Kelly.
Briggs & Ross' b. g. Frank Palmer.
W. Wecks' g. g. Royal George.
J. H. Phillips' b. m. Ella Madden. Half, 1:13¼ 1:13 1:12¼ 1:11 2:29 1/4 2:29

First Heat. -Jo Brown was the favorite over the field at the odds of 25 to 20. Frank Palmer was first away, Royal George second, Ella Madden third, Barney Kelly fourth, Jo Brown fifth. Ella Madden, Frank Palmer and Royal George broke up on the turn. When the horses passed the quarter pole Frank Palmer led two lengths, Barney Kelly second, Jo Brown third, Royal George fourth, Ella Madden fifth. Time, 37%. Ella Madden then made a very bad break, and before she recovered the others were 100 yards away. Frank Palmer passed the half-mile pole two longths in front of Je Brown, in 1:13%, the latter two longths in advance of Royal George, Ella Madden far behind. Coming up the hill of the backstretch Jo Brown trotted up to Frank Palmer and took the lead before he reached the three-quarter pole. Then coming on steadily Jo Brown won the heat by two lengths, Royal George second, Frank Palmer third, Barney Kelly fourth, Ella Madden at the distance pole. Time of the heat, 2:30 ½.

steadily Jo Brown won the heat by two lengths, Royal George second, Frank Palmer third, Barney Kelly fourth, Ella Madden at the distance pole. Time of the heat, 2:30-5.

Second Heat.—Jo Brown was a greater favorile than before the start. He was away first, Royal George second, Ella Madden third, Frank Palmer lourth, Barney Kelly fourth, Royal George fifth. Time, 38 seconds, Kelly furth, Royal George fifth. Time, 38 seconds, Ella Madden then out-footed Jo Brown, and at the halfmile pole led two lengths in 1:13, Jo Brown two lengths in front of Frank Palmer, Barney Kelly fourth, Royal George fifth. Coming up the hill of the backstretch Ella Madden showed the way to the three-quarter pole, but then Frank Palmer, Barney Kelly fourth, Royal George fifth. Coming up the hill of the backstretch Ella Madden showed the way to the three-quarter pole, but then Frank Palmer came to the front; then Jo Brown took the lead, and afterward Barney Kelly had the best of an exciting struggle up the homestretch, and the latter won the heat by half a length in 2:31. Jo Brown was second, Ella Madden third, Frank Palmer fourth, Royal George was away first, Frank Palmer fourth, Royal George was away first, Frank Palmer second, Jo Brown third, Barney Kelly fourth, Ella Madden fifth. Jo Brown soon dashed to the front, and led two lengths at the quarter pole in 37 seconds, Barney Kelly second, Frank Palmer third, Ella Madden iourth, Royal George was have first front at the hourth, Royal George fifth, the latter doing some rapid running at that point. Jo Brown opened the gap on the lower turn, and was four lengths in front at the half-mile pole in 1:12½, Frank Palmer second, two lengths in advance of Ella Madden, the latter half a length in front of Barney Kelly, who was two lengths ahead of Royal George, notwithstanding his running. Jo Brown maintained his advantage up the backstretch and off, Jo Brown second, Barney Kelly third, Frank Palmer fourth, Royal George had the bost of the send off, Jo Brown second, Barney Kelly third, Frank Palm

TIME. Quarter. Half.

Half. 1:15 ½ 1:14 1:15 1:15 1:15 ½ First heat. 385½
Second heat. 37
Third heat. 36½
Fourth heat. 38
Fifth heat. 38 2:3634

MIDDLETOWN TROTTING PARK.

MATCH OF TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS, MILE HEATS, BETWEEN GEORGE LINEHAM'S B. G. FRANK AND C. H. MASS' G. G. LON.

NEWPORT, R. I., Nov. 18, 1875. To-day a good attendance assembled at the Middle-town Trotting Park to witness an interesting trot between George Lineham's b. g. Frank and C. H. Mass' g. g. Lon. The track was very heavy, owing to recent

First Heat.-Led off by Lon, keeping lead all the way round, Frank bringing up the close, only making one or two breaks. Time, 3:12. Second Heat -Good start. Lon unfortunately made

a bad break soon after passing under the wire. Frank took the pole and kept the lead to the end of the heat and came in winner by two lengths. Time, 3:11.

Third Heat.—Both horses got a good send-off, they keeping together for three-fourths of a mile, when Frank made a break, Lon is once taking the lead and coming in the winner by one length. Time, 3:00.

Fourth Heat.—Got a good send off in this heat, Frank taking the lead from the wire, Lon, bowever, hugging him to the three-quarter pole, when he broke further to the rear and giving Frank an opportunity to win the heat, which he did by three lengths. Time, 3:08.

Fifth Heat.—Started even, Lon going to the front one haif a length, and held the lead to the three-quarter pole, at which place he made a break, allowing Frank to pass and win the heat and race by about a length. Time, 3:08. took the pole and kept the lead to the end of the heat

| length. Time, 3:08. | SUMMARY. | MIDDLETOWN TROTTING PARK, Nov. 18. — Match \$200, mile heats, best three in five. | George Lineham's b. g. Frank | 2 1 2 1 1 C. H. Mass' g. g. Lon. | 1 2 1 2 2 AUTEUIL HURDLE AND STEEPLE-

CHASE BACES.

Thanks to the handsome prizes offered for competi-tion by the Steeplechase Society of Auteuil, and also to the great fillip given to this kind of sport by Mr. Dennetier, we may reckon now a larger number of jumpers in France than has been the case for many years. The cross country business has many attractions for the French public, for it attracts not only the small number of those who are initiated in sporting matters, but, ber of those who are initiated in sporting matters, but, at Auteuil, thanks to the very easy access from all parts of the capital, thousands of pleasure seckers are usually seen there; but to-day it was real steeplechasing weather, viz., dull and cold, with a sharp, bitter winding fact, 'anything but sultry,' as some one pleasantly remarked. Such weather is not to the liking of the general public; consequently there was a great talling off in the attendance at Auteuil, but as Monday showed a bright sun and a clear sky the trains to Vesinet were more than loaded, and Mr. Dennetier may congratulate himself on having beaten Auteuil hollow, both as regards sport and attendance, the last named a very useful

item in the day's doings. We are told the receipts wen hem in the day's doings. We are tool the receipts wen in the cay's doings. We are tool the receipt men in creeky congratulate this enterprising clerk of the course, to whom the aporting world in France is deleted for so much of their amusements. Count Hubert Belamarre was unlucky enough to lose Tarbes on the first day. This promising son of Le Petit Caporal, having broken his leg when running in the steeple chase, had to be destroyed on the spot. It is a serious loss for this young nobleman, who is a great patron of racing in France.—Bell's Life, Non 6.

ROWING.

E. Winston and A. Piper vs. J. Spencer and C. Harding rowed a pair-oared match for £50 on the Thames, at London, October 30, from Putney Aqueduct to Barnes Bridge. All the men belonged to Chelaes. Spencer and Harding were great favorites at ten to six. They were beaten very easily by eight lengths. On the list inst. the two scullers, W. E. Burgoine and W. Burwood rowed a match over the Champion course, from Putney to Mortlake, for £40a side. Burwood won easily by twelve lengths, in 25m. 13s.

The match between Green and Hepplewhite came off on the Thames on Wednesday, the 4th inst. The stakes were £400. Green won the race quite easily.

On the 3d inst. J. Huggins and C. Brian tried conclusions for £200 on the champion course, and Higgins proved the victor.

COLUMBIA COLLEGE RACES.

The races of the classes of 1879 of Columbia College and School of Mines took place on the Harlem on Wednesday last.

The two gigs were manned as follows:-Mines-Castner, bow; Milliken, No. 2; Taylor, No. 3; Seeley, stroke, and Mr. C. Lindley, conswain. The College crew consisted of Eldridge, bow; Spader, No. 2; Hilton, No. 3; Brown, stroke, and Mr. J. Goodwin, coxswain. Though the wind was blowing almost a gale, the crews made fine time. The "Miners" won casily it 13 min. 20 sec. The distance rowed was the usual two-

BOATING ON THE HARLEM.

A large collection of sporting men yesterday morning witnessed a three mile match between J. R. Lewis, an expert athicte, and Charles Norris, a practical carsman, in single-skull shells, from Morris book to the powder boat, against the tide. Starting well together at a 3d-stroke no advantage appeared till Lewis, who had the inside, run aground by steering too near shore. Before he got off his opponent led him by eight lengths. Lewis made vigorous exertions to close the gap, but Norris, who had dropped the stroke to 34, spurted to 38, and maintained his precedence, winning by ten lengths. Time, 23m. 30s.

RACKET MATCH.

O. S. MANNING, OF PHILADELPHIA, VS. PRO-FESSOR DEVOE, OF NEW YORK.

The second five of the fifteen games in the champion ship racket match, between O. S. Manning, of Philadelphia, and Professor William Devoe, of New York, was played yesterday afternoon at the court of Bernard McQuade, No. 404 Madison street. There was a large attendance, among the spectators being several prominent New York and Brooklyn gentlemen interested in

nent New York and Brooklyn gentlemen interested in the sport, and who occasionally play the game in private and commend it for the activity which it requires to be at all successful. The first of the series of the match came off in Philadelphia a few days since, and resulted in the score of 3 to 2 in favor of Manning. Yesterday's games were also in favor of the same player, who beat his opponent four out of the five.

The first game was won by Manning with a score of 15 to 3, and he at once became a great favorite with the spectators, some of whom desired to speculate a little on the result. The second fell to the same player with a score of 15 to 6, and it was now apparent that the Philadelphian was in much better form than his opponent. The third was the best of the series, the game being called 13 all, and it was "hand out" for about eight times before another ace was scored. Finally, Manning won with the score of 15 to 3. The fourth fell easily to Manning with 15 to 1, and the fifth, after a spirited contest, was captured by Devoe with 15 ta 13. The playing throughout was very creditable.

The third and last two games of the series will be decided this afternoon at Case's Racket Court, corner of Hoyt and Douglass streets, Brooklyn.

WALKING IN NEW ZEALAND. We learn from the Otago Daily Times of August \$ that a lad thirteen years and seven months old, named Scott, has succeeded in walking 100 miles in 23h. 523gm. His last mile was walked in 10m. 54s. His weight is only 4 st. 8 lbs. The course was in the Queen's Theatre, and had five sharp corners and a rise of two feet in thirty feet, with of course a corresponding fall, which made the task much more difficult than it would have been on a proper course.—Land and

CHALLENGE TO THE AMERICAN

Mr. J. Jenn, seeing that D. O'Leary is credited with walking fifty miles in 8b. 52m. 18s., and 100 miles in 18b. 53m. 40s., will find a man to walk him fifty miles for any part of £500, and will stake another £100 that O'Leary does not make the time in England that he is said to have done in America, or O'Leary can have any reasonable start he likes to ask for in ten miles. The match to take place on any ground in either London, Manchester or Sheffield.—Bell's Lyte, Nov. 6.

THE RIFLE.

The American Rifle Team will shoot off at Creedoor, on the 29th inst., for the Providence prize won

in October last.
On the 25th inst. (next Thursday) the American Rifle Association are to hold a meeting on their ranges at Glen Drake. Five matches are to be shot, namely, the All Comers', a Subscription, De Puyster badge—team matches—and "an old time turkey shoot."

THE COUNTY CANVASS COMPLETE.

The work of counting the vote of the city and county of New York was completed yesterday by the Board of Canvassers. No change was made in the returns from the Twenty-third and Twenty-fourth wards, so

from the Twenty-third and Twenty-fourth wards, so that Cudlipp was declared elected District Alderman over Simonson by a majority of 62 votes.

A motion was offered by Alderman Lewis that the Comptroller be directed to draw his warrants in favor of several clerks and attachés of the Board of Canvassers. The whole of these salaries amounts to some \$2,050. After opposition from Alderman Morris, Southworth and Howland, the resolution was passed. The Board then adjourned, to meet at eleven o'clock this morning, when the Supervisors will affix their signatures to the official declaration.

SMALLPOX.

ALLEGED NEGLECT OF THE BROOKLYN BOARD, OF HEALTH-PREVENTION BETTER THAN CURR. The police report that smallpox is exceedingly prevalent in Brooklyn. The health authorities, when interrogated upon the subject, assert that the dread disease is subsiding. It is asserted by citizens that the latter bureau is not as efficient as the circumstances demand. About ten days ago Mrs. Derham, who resided with her

husband and family in a fine brown stone front house, on Prospect Park place, near Flatbush avenue, died of smallpox. The bereaved widower at-

on Prospect Park place, near Flatbush avenue, died of smallpox. The bereaved widower attributes the loss of his wife to the neglect of the Health Board, It appears that some time ago a lady, whose name is withheld, took a house within two doors of Mr. Derham's residence and nursed more than one case of smallpox there. The patient was finally removed in the night in a carriage, and some days after the carpet which covered the sick room, in which the infested people had lain, was taken up. The lining, without being disinfected, was thrown into a lot adjoining the house of Mr. Derham. The fact that this had been done was reported to the Sanitary Board repeatedly, but they paid no attention to the matter. Mr. Derham attributes his wife's death to the neglect of the health authorities to remove this cause of infection.

PREVENTION BETTER THAN CUEE.

In connection with this subject Professor W. De F. Day, M. D., delivered a lecture last evening before the College of Pharmacy of the city of New York, at the University buildings, on Washington place. A large and attentive audience listened to the words of the cloquent lecturer. He traced in the course of his words the inception and progress of the disease known as smallpox in its course through New York, Brooklya and Williamsburg from the opening of 1874 to the present month, During 1874 the cases clustered in the Deat and Dumb Asylum on the Hudson River, near Washington Heights, in the Nineteenth precinct, alsoft Frity-minth street and First avenue, and in the dense tenement-house population in the Tenth, Eleventh and Seventeenth wards of New York. The lecturer said that in the districts where this terrible disease was prevalent, as instanced above, the parents of families habitually opposed vaccination and concealed the cases of smallpox from the docurs. As a medical man, as the Superintendent of the Sanitary Department of New York Vork, be urged that some compulsory system of vaccination be adopted in New York, Prooklyn, Williamsburg and Jersey City, to prevent the

THE NEWARK TRAGEDY.

Examination of the affairs of Alderman John C, Johnson, of Newark, shows that there was no real cause for the alarm which induced him to blow his brains out. His brother in law, Mr. Ira M. Harrison, with whom he had been in consultation over his affaira, stated yesterday that nobedy was more amazed than he at the suicide. No inquest will be held, and the funeral will take place to-morrow. It will be an imposing demonstration.